

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Replace paragraph 0014 on page 3 with the following:

As noted above, FIR filters can be used in a wide variety of applications and the present disclosure is not limited to any particular application. One exemplary application, however, is in a data communication receiver, particular receivers that incorporate equalization to combat inter-symbol interference (“ISI”). Figure 1 shows an exemplary embodiment of at least a portion of such a data communication receiver 20. As shown, the receiver 20 comprises a summer 22, a slicer 24, and an FIR 30. An analog serial input data stream is provided to the summer. Decision feedback equalization techniques cancel incoming ISI through the subtraction of ISI estimates from the received input data stream. Thus, the slicer 24 determines the logic state of each incoming bit.

The FIR filter 30 receives one or more equalization coefficients and multiplies the coefficients by the sampled data decisions to generate a feedback signal 32 to the summer 22. The feedback signal 32 31 is subtracted from the input data stream to cancel the affects of ISI. In addition to use in data communication receivers, FIR filters can be used in data communication transmitters. In such a transmitter, the FIR filter can be used to modify the transmitted pulse shape to combat pre-cursor and post-cursor ISI. The transmitted data can be driven either by the FIR filter itself or by a linear amplifier following the FIR filter. Data communication receivers and transmitters are exemplary only of many uses for FIR filters.